

than 720,000. In this capacity Michelle has been able to leverage her college degrees and bilingual skills to help resolve complex problems for many individuals in need.

Michelle is deeply principled, a hard worker, and an excellent team player. She consistently took on challenges to serve others using her intelligence, diplomacy, and empathy. Recently, Michelle served as the only staffer supporting a congressional fact-finding visit, when I traveled to the U.S.-Mexico border along with my colleague Congressman COLIN ALLRED. Michelle's language skills, subject matter knowledge, and ability to build trust allowed us to communicate with individuals seeking asylum in the United States. This firsthand experience provided us with valuable insights on how the humanitarian crisis at the U.S.-Mexico border is impacting national security, and how the complexities and ambiguities of immigration law, as well as changes in the law's application, can affect families on both sides of the border. She has worked on high-profile cases for my constituents, including complicated immigration work for the Washington Post journalist Jason Rezaian and his family following his imprisonment in Iran.

Over the years; Michelle has developed a keen understanding of how her casework informs my legislative agenda. She has worked with all levels of government, non-profits, community groups, and businesses to help address key local problems. She has become an integral member of my district staff, and she will be sorely missed as she leaves us to pursue law school. Madam Speaker, I hope you will join me and my staff in extending to Michelle our deep appreciation for her many good deeds and wishing her the best in all her future endeavors.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR. CARL REINER

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 7, 2020

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life of Mr. Carl Reiner, a beloved American and resident of California's 33rd Congressional District, who passed away at the age of 98 on June 29, 2020. With decades of work as an Emmy-winning writer, actor, director and producer, Carl's comedic genius and generous spirit impacted not only the world of comedy but also deepened our understanding of the human condition.

Born on March 20, 1922 in The Bronx, Carl graduated high school at 16 and started working as a shipping clerk and then as a machinist's helper before discovering a newspaper announcement for free drama classes sponsored by the Works Progress Administration.

From there, Carl began acting at a midtown Manhattan theater and joined a Shakespearean repertory company. He even took a job performing at Allaben Acres, a summer camp for adults in the Catskills where he met jazz singer Estelle Lebest, his wife for 65 years who passed in 2008.

Drafted into the Army during World War II, Carl trained as a French interpreter at Georgetown University before touring the South Pacific in G.I. revues in the Special Services en-

tertainment unit. After his honorable discharge in 1946, Carl branched into performing Broadway musicals, until landing a spot in an NBC comedy sketch show entitled "Your Show of Shows" as an actor and a writer. In this writing room with Mel Brooks, Mel Tolkin, Lucille Kallen, and Neil and Danny Simon, the idea of the 2,000-Year-Old-Man routine came to life with fellow comedian and director Mel Brooks.

Later, while writing for singer Dinah Shore's variety, Carl developed the idea for "The Dick Van Dyke Show," a comedy sitcom based on his own life experiences. This highly successful and well-crafted show would run for five seasons and earn Carl multiple Emmys for writing and producing.

After "The Dick Van Dyke Show," Carl transitioned into a full-time director, creating films like "The Jerk" (1979), "Dead Men Don't Wear Plaid" (1982), "The Man with Two Brains" (1983) and "All of Me" (1984) with actor Steve Martin during the 1970s and 1980s. In his later years, Carl would return to acting, with his reoccurring roles in the television sitcom *Frasier* and the *Ocean's Eleven* movie franchise, and even becoming a prolific writer of books. As Carl once said, "The absolute truth is the thing that makes people laugh."

Carl is survived by his son Rob Reiner, a noted actor, director, producer, and political activist; son Lucas Reiner, an artist; daughter Annie Reiner, a psychoanalyst; and his five grandchildren. May his compassion, kindness, and dedication to the craft of comedy continue to live on through the millions of people he brought joy to and inspired.

HONORING THE VOLUNTEERS OF THE IOWA MASK BRIGADE AS IOWANS OF THE WEEK

HON. CYNTHIA AXNE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 7, 2020

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, as millions of individuals, families, and essential workers struggle to obtain the proper personal protective equipment (PPE) required to keep them safe during these difficult times, volunteer organizations like the Iowa Mask Brigade have stepped up to provide these critical items to keep our citizens and communities safe. That is why today, I rise to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the Iowa Mask Brigade as this week's Iowan of the Week.

The Iowa Mask Brigade was founded earlier this year by Connie Klug after she received a distressed call from her niece, an emergency room doctor in desperate need of PPE. Connie immediately got to work researching protective masks and found that filters were the most important feature that made them effective. Although commercial face mask filters were not available, Connie used her problem-solving skills to create her own. She began cutting furnace filters from the company 3M, the same company that produces the coveted N95 masks. Sandwiching this filter in between two layers of high-quality cotton fabric, Connie produced her first mask in a process the New York Times would later consider the best method of making homemade masks. Connie, a quilter, enlisted the help of two of her seam-

stress friends, who enlisted the help of their friends, and an organization instantly formed as volunteers coalesced around one simple idea: to provide masks to those who need them.

In their first month of operation, the Iowa Mask Brigade used over 75 furnace filters. Today, the Iowa Mask Brigade consists of 35 volunteers who have collectively produced almost 8,000 masks since its inception in March.

One of those volunteers is Ray Getting, who handles much of the logistics within the Brigade. In a recent conversation, he mentioned everyone who has received a mask is so incredibly appreciative. The group maintains extremely high standards for quality, and if a mask wasn't perfect, it wasn't sent out. He's been able to send high quality masks to people he cares about in places he knows it's going to make a difference.

As the organization has grown, their mask-making has become more innovative. When the Brigade ran out of elastic bands for ear loops, they turned to hairbands. Today, they have purchased over 25,000 hairbands for their masks, and they have shared this technique, as well as many others they have developed, with other mask-making organizations.

The Iowa Mask Brigade has sent masks to people in need all over the United States. From the Iowa's Dallas County Hospital to San Antonio to the Navajo Nation in Arizona, for whom they have created a custom design to fit their preferences. Now, the Brigade mostly serves low income housing, hospitals, and nursing homes, such as the APEHA senior living apartments in Johnston, Iowa.

In honoring the Iowa Mask Brigade today, I want to underscore the values of hard work, dedication, persistence, and problem-solving that Iowans demonstrate in spades during this difficult time. As Connie Klug said, "A unique characteristic of Iowans is that we don't get defeated easily. We just went to work and overcame it. That to me is Iowans: we don't get discouraged; we just get to work. We're not helpless. We rolled up our sleeves and said, there are not problems that we can't figure out."

I am so proud to recognize the Iowa Mask Brigade for their outstanding work and their unwavering willingness to help all those in need. It is my hope that other individuals and organizations are inspired to take action of their own. The volunteers powering the Iowa Mask Brigade have not only given protective gear to people in need, but also instilled hope when we need it most. It is my honor to share the Iowa Mask Brigade's story and recognize the group as our Iowan of the Week.

CADET LAITYN TIPPY SELECTED AS OVERALL AFJROTC AND AFA CADET LEADERSHIP AWARD WINNER

HON. ERIC A. "RICK" CRAWFORD

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 7, 2020

Mr. CRAWFORD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Cadet Laityn Tippy from Westside High School and the Air Force JROTC, Unit No. AR20061, in Jonesboro, AR,